

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 /102 W

----- 066882

R 250649Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5584

INFO AMCONGEN ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 8905

E.O. 11652: NA/A

TAGS: EGEN ENRG

SUBJ: EPMG INSTITUTES NEW CONVOY SYSTEM

REF: ADDIS 8648 AND PREVIOUS

1. OIL INDUSTRY SOURCES INFORMED EMBASSY JULY 24 THAT THE EPMG STARTED A NEW CONVOY SYSTEM THIS WEEK WHICH WILL PROBABLY REDUCE CONVOY TRANSIT TIME BY SEVERAL DAYS. UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM CONVOYS WILL OPERATE ONLY BETWEEN ASSAB AND SARDO WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 210 KMS FROM ASSAB. ALL INCIDENTS THUS FAR HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THESE TWO POINTS. CONVOYS WILL RUN BOTH DAY AND NIGHT.

2. ACCORDING TO THESE SAME SOURCES, TRUCK DRIVERS AS WELL

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AS THE OIL COMPANIES WELCOME THIS CHANGE. IF THE TURN AROUND

TIME IS REDUCED TO 5-7 DAYS (WHICH IS CLOSE TO THE TIME
REQUIRED UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS), RATIONING WILL PROBABLY
BE UNNECESSARY IN 3-4 WEEKS TIME AND STOCKS WILL ALSO HAVE
BEEN GREATLY INCREASED DURING THIS PERIOD.

3. COMMENT.

A ASSUMING THE NEW SYSTEM IS EFFECTIVE AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
ARE AGAIN IN AMPLE SUPPLY, THE GENERAL CONFIDENCE OF THE PUBLIC
IN THE EPMG WILL UNDOUBTEDLY INCREASE AND THE EPMG WILL HAVE
WEATHERED ONE OF ITS MOST DIFFICULT CHALLENGES DURING THE PAST
SEVERAL MONTHS.

B. OIL INDUSTRY SOURCES ALSO CONFIRMED THAT NO TRUCKS WERE
DESTROYED (SEE REFTEL) WHEN THE BRIDGE WAS BLOWN ON JULY 12.

HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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